

The strength and vitality of the United States of America is in the diversity of its people, the diversity of its ideas, the freedom to express those ideas and the opportunity to achieve one's potential and direct one's destiny.

Mr. Speaker, these ideals and principles are absolute and will not be surrendered or weakened by the cowardly acts of terrorists who fear the sunshine of freedom and the responsibility it brings.

Let us forever remember that the date September 11 reaffirms the principles for which the United States of America was founded and that on this day each year freedom shall ring from every community in this great land and the Voice of America will be heard around the world.

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING MR.
AND MRS. DILLON**

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, Matt and Joy Dillon were united in marriage July 31, 1977 and are celebrating 25 years of marriage this year; and

Whereas, Matt and Joy Dillon have demonstrated a firm commitment to each other; and

Whereas, Matt and Joy Dillon must be commended for their loyalty and dedication to their family; and

Whereas, Matt and Joy Dillon have proven, by their example, to be a model for all married couples; and

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Dillon as they celebrate their 25th Wedding Anniversary.

**HONORING MARTHA EZELL
"MAMA" TUNE FOR A LIFETIME
OF ACHIEVEMENT**

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Martha Ezell Tune, "Mama Tune," of Antioch, Tennessee, for a lifetime of devotion to family, faith, and community.

Mama Tune's contributions to Davidson County, and particularly, the Antioch area, have impacted many. Whether it be her involvement and leadership in civic matters, cooking meals for family and friends, working the polls on election day, writing a history of the Antioch community, or substitute teaching at Antioch High School, Mama Tune is an individual who is an inspiration to us all.

A Tennessee native, Mama Tune graduated from Antioch High School in 1941, alongside her brother, James. That same year she married James Tune. The two enjoyed 50 years together and had two children, Buford and Sam, and three grandchildren. Mama Tune's sons are successful Middle Tennessee business owners.

Tune received her education from Middle Tennessee Teacher's College and the Univer-

sity of Alabama. She taught at Una Elementary School for several years. She has been teaching in the Metropolitan Davidson County School System as a teacher or substitute teacher for fifty years and currently substitutes at Antioch High School on a regular basis. Many times she teaches students whose parents she once taught in school. Her profound influence for the good has shaped many lives over the years.

Mama Tune often touts the accomplishments of the students she taught at Antioch. She pours more than knowledge into their lives: she pours love and they do not ever forget it.

The Clement family has known and appreciated the friendship of the Tune and Ezell families for a number of years. In particular, we have enjoyed many conversations and meals at their home, including such southern delicacies as homemade chocolate pie, cornbread, green beans, fried chicken, and macaroni and cheese. Mama Tune is well known for her cooking and included a number of her best-loved recipes in the book, "All I Know About Antioch High School, The Town, and My Life."

Individuals like Mama Tune are those who make this nation great—individuals who are willing to give of themselves and their time for the betterment of the state and the community through acts of kindness and love. Today we honor her for a lifetime of achievement.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF TERRORIST ATTACKS LAUNCHED AGAINST THE UNITED STATES ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this Joint Resolution and in doing so, I stand in solemn remembrance of the tragic events of a year ago and a pride in America's response.

While the loss of life was immense, and the impact of the terrorist attacks was felt far from New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania, the terrorists failed. The group of men, and the larger organization they represented, wanted to break the will of a proud and strong country. The world stands in witness to their failure.

Instead of falling apart, our country united. Our brave first responders worked tirelessly to help survivors; we saw ordinary citizens involved in heroic efforts; and all across the country Americans joined together to offer assistance.

The outpouring of support and unity could be seen in every flag that was flown with pride across this country. The United States of America rose to the challenge presented to it with a resolve that was felt around the world.

Now, on our first Patriot Day, when we see our flag at half-mast, let us not only remember the tragic events of a year ago, but also the strength exhibited by all Americans. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution, expressing solidarity on this day of remembrance.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS FOR SENIORS

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of millions of seniors across our nation who are forced to choose between buying their food, paying their rent, or purchasing their medicine. For too many seniors, this is truly a life or death situation that none of them should have to face.

Unfortunately, this Congress is just weeks away from adjourning for the session and we are still no closer to enacting a Medicare prescription drug benefit.

Over two months ago, we had an opportunity to debate and vote on a bill that would provide a meaningful prescription drug benefit under the Medicare program. The "Medicare Rx Drug Benefit and Discount Act (H.R. 5019)" would add a new "Part D" to the Medicare program with voluntary prescription drug coverage for any senior that chooses to enroll. Participating seniors would pay a set \$25 per month premium and a \$100 a year deductible. In return, Medicare would cover 80% of all drug costs up to \$2,000 a year. Once a senior reached the \$2,000 out-of-pocket limit, Medicare would then pay for all drug costs beyond that point.

The House leadership refused to allow this bill on the floor. Instead, in the dead of night, while our nation's seniors were fast asleep, a majority in the House passed a bill that might as well have been written by the pharmaceutical industry. No substitute was allowed and no amendments could be offered. There was nothing even remotely bipartisan about that evening.

The bill that passed at 2:30 a.m. on June 28 does not establish a prescription drug plan under Medicare. Instead, it relies on private insurers who are free to design their own plans, charge their own prices, decide which drugs to cover, and tell our seniors what pharmacies they may use. It does nothing to bring down rising drug costs nor does it address the issue of reimportation. Most importantly, the House leadership knows this bill has no chance of passing the Senate. It was a political gesture, not a policy priority.

Where does this leave our nations seniors? They are still being forced to choose between food, shelter, and their medicine. They are still paying exorbitant prices for the same medications that are available in Canada and overseas for a fraction of the cost. They are still waiting for this House to act in a responsible manner.

My House colleagues on both sides of the aisle, we still have time—it is not too late. Let's work together in a bipartisan manner to meet our parties' respective promises to the American people and provide meaningful prescription drug benefits. Together we can bring hope and relief to our nation's seniors and pass a real Medicare prescription drug plan before this Congress adjourns.